

United States Government

Department of Energy

memorandum

Richland Operations Office

DATE:

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

REG:DCG/00-RU-0558

SUBJECT:

READINESS REVIEW ASSESSMENT OF THE RIVER PROTECTION PROJECT
WASTE TREATMENT PLANT (RPP-WTP) TRANSITION CONTRACTOR

TO: H. L. Boston, ORP

As the head contracting authority for the RPP-WTP, this memo notifies you of the Office of Safety Regulation of the RPP-WTP Contractor's (Regulatory Unit) intention to conduct an assessment of the readiness of the Transition Contractor (CH2M Hill Hanford Group) to perform important-to-safety design activities and requests your concurrence with this assessment. The readiness review assessment and its scope have been discussed with your staff and the CH2M Hill Hanford Group (CHG) staff.

To assure the RPP-WTP authorization and design bases will be maintained current, the Regulatory Unit (RU) established its expectations for the Transition Contractor in position paper, RL/REG-2000-20, *Regulatory Unit Position on Important to Safety Work Authorization for the RPP-WTP Interim Design Period*. To meet these expectations and achieve timely resumption of RPP-WTP design work, CHG is in the process of revising the project authorization basis (AB) documents (Quality Assurance Program, Safety Requirements Document, Radiation Protection Plan, Integrated Safety Management Plan, Employee Concerns Program, Hazards Analysis [Significant and Bounding Hazards], and Integrated Safety Analysis [Fundamental Aspects of Design]) that BNFL Inc. (BNFL) delivered during the transition. Furthermore, CHG informed the RU that it would change the documents to reflect only the organizational change to CHG from BNFL, and that it intends to provide the revised documents to the RU for review by October 2, 2000. CHG also stated the RU needs to complete its readiness review by October 16, 2000, so as not to impact the schedule for meeting transition goals established by the Office of River Protection.

Therefore, the RU plans to start the readiness review assessment on October 2, 2000, and complete it by October 16, 2000. Based on CHG's intentions to make only minor changes to the AB documents and implementing procedures, the purpose of the assessment will be to verify equivalency of the AB documents, that is confirming that the documents have been revised only to indicate transference of responsibility. The readiness review assessment will include an in-office review of AB documents and a field review of programs, procedures, processes, training, and qualifications,

and will be conducted by eight to ten RU staff. The program, procedures, and processes that will be assessed include the configuration management program, design process, quality assurance program, ALARA design program, standards selection process, employee concerns program, and selected inspection open items associated with each of these area.

Because the RU lacks contractual authority to perform the above assessment, we are requesting your concurrence to initiate this activity. To facilitate our preparations, we would like your response by September 26, 2000. The RU will provide you with the results of the readiness review assessment to assist with your decision to authorize the Contractor to perform RPP-WTP important-to-safety work. If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Robert C. Barr on (509) 376-7851.

D. Clark Gibbs, Regulatory Official
Office of Safety Regulation
of the RPP-WTP Contractor

cc: L. Erickson, ORP
K. A. Klein, RL